


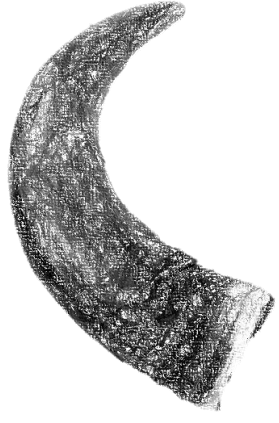


Answer Sheet

Name _____

Date _____

Directions: Write the differences between antlers and horns in the chart below. Sketch an example of each.

Antlers versus Horns	
Antlers	Horns
Grow on members of the Cervidae family	Grow on member of the Bovidae family:
Fast growing	Slow growing
Shed annually	Permanent
Made of solid bone	Made of a bony core covered in thin layer of keratin
Grown only by males (except caribou)	Grown by both males and females
Cannot tell the age of the animal by looking at antlers	Can tell the age by looking at growth rings on a horn
Often branched	Often not branched
Grow from the tip	Grow from the base
sketch of an antler: 	sketch of a horn: 

What role do you think elk antlers play in the ecosystem after elk shed them?

Shed antlers provide rodents and other animals that gnaw on them nutrients such as calcium and phosphorus.